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Roberta A. Winzeler

(Name)

(Signature)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: John C. Dute', et al.

) Group Art Unit: 2121

Serial No.: 09/915,188

) Examiner: Aaron C. Perez-Daple

Filing Date: July 25, 2001

) Attorney Docket: 1-16437

For: System, Device and Method for Comprehensive)

Input/Output Interface Between Process or)

Machine Transducers and Controlling Device or)

System)

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ACCOMPANYING A REQUEST FOR CONTINUED
EXAMINATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114

Honorable Sir:

This preliminary amendment accompanies the attached Request for Continuing Examination (RCE) and is responsive to the Examiner's Office Action of March 31, 2004 in the above-indicated application. The applicants have carefully studied the references cited by the Examiner and the Examiner's comments relative thereto.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 18 of this paper.